FORENSIC SCIENCE MINOR

Banner Code: FRSC

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This minor addresses the growing national and regional interest in forensic science by introducing students to the technical, scientific, and legal aspects of the field. The minor provides an attractive option for students with majors in the natural sciences, criminology, psychology, or computer science, and the curriculum structure makes it particularly suitable for students with majors in biology and chemistry.

Admissions & Policies

Policies
At least 8 credits must be applied only to this minor and may not be used to fulfill requirements of the student's major, concentration, or another minor or undergraduate certificate.

For policies governing all minors, see AP.5.3.4 Minors.

Requirements

Minor Requirements
Total credits: 20-21

Students should refer to the Admissions & Policies tab for specific policies related to this program.

Students must complete at least 6 credits in their minor at George Mason University and achieve a minimum GPA of 2.00 in courses applied to the minor.

Foundation Science Courses
Select two courses or course/lab pairings from the courses below. Please pay attention to the prerequisites for each course:

- **BIOL 213** Cell Structure and Function (Mason Core)
- **BIOL 305 & BIOL 306** Biology of Microorganisms and Biology of Microorganisms Laboratory
- **BIOL 311** General Genetics
- **CHEM 211 & CHEM 213** General Chemistry I (Mason Core) and General Chemistry Laboratory I (Mason Core)
- **CHEM 212 & CHEM 214** General Chemistry II (Mason Core) and General Chemistry Laboratory II (Mason Core)
- **PHYS 160 & PHYS 161** University Physics I (Mason Core) and University Physics I Laboratory (Mason Core)
- **PHYS 243 & PHYS 244** College Physics (Mason Core) and College Physics Lab (Mason Core)
- **PHYS 245 & PHYS 246** College Physics (Mason Core) and College Physics Lab (Mason Core)
- **PHYS 260 & PHYS 261** University Physics II (Mason Core) and University Physics II Laboratory (Mason Core)

Total Credits 8

Forensic Science Core Courses

- **FRSC 200** Survey of Forensic Science 3
- **FRSC 201** Introduction to Criminalistics 3

Total Credits 6

Forensic Science Electives
Select one course from the following. Please pay attention to prerequisites for each course:

- **FRSC 302** Forensic Trace Analysis
- **FRSC 303** Forensic Evidence and Ethics
- **FRSC 304** Forensic Chemistry
- **FRSC 460** Forensic DNA Sciences

Total Credits 3

Supporting Courses
Select one course from the following. Please pay attention to prerequisites for each course:

Select one FRSC course if not chosen above:

- **FRSC 302** Forensic Trace Analysis
- **FRSC 303** Forensic Evidence and Ethics
- **FRSC 304** Forensic Chemistry
- **FRSC 460** Forensic DNA Sciences

- **GEOL 302** Mineralogy
- **GEOL 306** Soil Science
- **CRIM 400** Applied Criminal Psychology
- **CRIM 410** Criminal Investigations
- **PSYC 380** Introduction to Forensic Psychology
- **PSYC 441** Criminal Behavior: Psychological and Neurological Aspects

Total Credits 3-4